of the patient's mental status. Had the facts been detrimental they would not have been suppressed.

Beliefs could be stigmatized as "delusional" on the basis of unverified "facts" -- really on the basis of simply "other" beliefs. Mrs. Adams' ward-mate and friend, Mrs. Brown was committed in September of 1907 with paranoid delusions that her husband was having an affair with her niece. Her "History," signed by Dr. Burson, indicates that she had a "violent temper & jealously since childhood" and that "for past 18 years she has been unreasonably jealous of her husband," watches over him and has "made attack on his life." The husband is reported to have noted that she had lost a child before marriage and that its loss had "upset her mind." Mrs. Brown's "madness" was marked by a "gradual increase of unreasonable temper & violent attacks of jealousy." The statement about her lost child could have been intended to discredit Mrs. Brown's morals as well as her mental condition; her reticence on this subject is noted in the Clinical Record.

Dr. Burson's "Certificate" records her conviction that "her husband has deserted her for another woman & that he is attempting to take her money away from her. That he and her niece tried several times to starve her to death. That he is constantly going with other women." This certificate also records, under "facts ... communicated ... by others," her husband's statement that "there is no reason for her jealousy," etc. Her "Certificate" signed by Dr. Fitzgerald notes that she is "suffering from Delusions of a persecutory nature -- believes her husband is misconducting himself which is contrary to the facts." Precisely how he knows the facts he does not say. He is convinced of her "insanity" by her "childishness," and her "marked narrowing of associative processes with almost total lack of insight."

(A Vast Correspondence: Miss Adams)

Miss Adams's father urged closer -- virtually total -- confinement of his daughter, in order to prevent her from communicating with people outside. In a letter to Dr. C. K. Clarke of December 27, 1906, he requested that "some arrangements be made whereby Miss Adams is not allowed to see visitors"